Thousands gather downlown to celebrate the arts. Story and photos, Pages 4-S.

 Abortion protests and the rebirth of vinyl.
 Opinions, Page 3. Fireworks are danger ous, but they removing top cause 6th holiday NEBR. injuries. The Pages 67.

UNO receives McAuliffe award

By Tim Rohwer

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities presented UNO's College of Education with the Christa McAuliffe Showcase for Excellence Award June 15 in Washington, D.C.

Eight universities nationwide received the award recognizing exemplary programs in teacher education. The award honors McAulisse, a public school teacher who died in the space shuttle Challenger explosion in 1986.

UNO's College of Education received the award in recognition of its minority faculty development program.

The minority faculty development program gives minority individuals the opportunity to work toward a doctorate degree while teaching part time at UNO, according to Richard Flynn, dean of the College of Education.

"The approach is a 'grow your own' program which concentrates on developing individuals from the local area who are interested in pursuing their doctorate and beginning a career in higher education," Flynn said.

"It builds upon the talent of local minorities who wish to remain in the area."

The College of Education modeled the program, which is in its third year, after a similar program in UNO's College of Public Affairs and Community Service, he said.

"We have two excellent participants in this College of Education program, Karen Butler and Deb Irvin," Flynn said. "They are doing very well right now assistant teaching at UNO, while getting their doctorate at UNL (University of Nebraska-Lincoln)."

According to a press release, the program reflects the need to provide schools more minority educators.

"I think this (the program) basically reflects the commitment UNO has in hiring minority faculty," Flynn said.

According to Flynn, an individual must be a member of a protected class minority group that is under-represented on the NU system faculty to be eligible for the program.

The individual also must have a master's degree or its equivalent and be accepted in a degree program in a field relevant to the role and mission of the college, he said.

Besides UNO, the other schools which received the McAuliffe Award were Cleveland State University of Ohio, California State University at Fresno, California State University at San Bernardino, California State University at Northridge, Eastern Michigan University, Lander College of South Carolina, and Jersey City State College in New Jersey.

Mudd appointed to post

By Tekia A. Ali

UNO's newly-appointed assistant vice chancellor of educational and student services said one of her main duties will be to make students more aware of services available on campus.

Mary Mudd, who was appointed by Vice Chancellor of Education and Student Services Richard Hoover, had held her position on an interim basis since September.

"My goal is to get in contact with students and faculty so that they'll know we're here," she said.

"So many students don't even know we have these services. These services help students take advantage of what's available here, academically wise, at UNO."

Muddsaidsheplanstomeet with the directors of each student service twice a month to evaluate various department goals, including ways to make students more aware of the services.

"Flowever, I'll be in their offices a lot more than that," she

"Our challenge is to see that more publicity is created for

these services. We're concerned about what helps students stay in school."

Mudd's position involves supervising the directors of Career Planning and Placement, University Division Counseling, Health Services, the Learning Center, Multicultural Affairs, Orientation, and Testing Services.

"There is an under-utilized counseling service available for students in need of help (adjusting to college) that's free of charge," Mudd said.

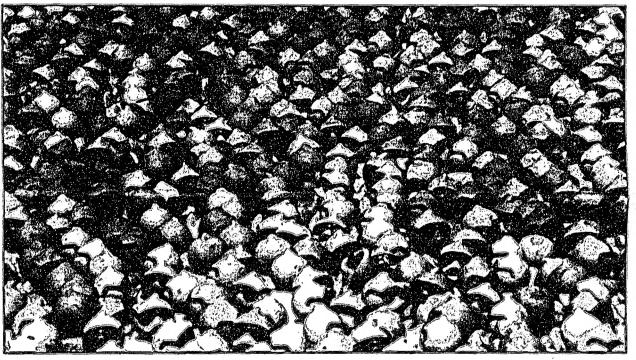
She said nearly all of the services are free to students, but many students believe there is a charge.

Born in Atlanta, Ga., Mudd received her doctorate in educational administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Mudd has worked in several areas since coming to UNO in 1969, including student orientation, where she was the director.

"For many of the areas that I'll supervise, I've done the work myself," she said.

Muddsaidshewantsstudents to feel free to come to her office in Room 215 in the Eppley Administration Building.



-Eric Francis

Rubber Ducky, you're the one ...

Fifteen thousand rubber ducks float in the Central Park Lagoon at the third annual Great Omaha Duck Stampede Sunday. The event was held to benefit Children's Hospital patients.

International group goes out on the town

By Carol Lager

About 14 UNO international students recently got a taste of Omaha's food and attractions.

The students, along with several American UNO students, visited the Old Market, Heartland Park, and other area attractions June 20-22.

The outing was the first social event sponsored by the UNO International Student Center (ISC) and the Lutheran Campus Ministries, according to Mansour Farani, a business management student from Afghanistan who organized the event. Lutheran Campus Ministries is part of the University Religious Center.

Farmi said the purpose of these events is to allow UNO's foreign students a chance to have fun together.

"This time the (University) Religious

...See International, Page 2

Trip to Romania erodes Cold War myths

The author recently travelled in Romania as part of a research team from UNO's Executive master's of business administration (MBA) program. The research objective was to explore potential trade relations between Romania and Nebraska businesses. This is part one in a series of articles about his experiences and includes opinions of the author.

By Michael Kohler

As I grew up in America during the Cold War, I absorbed many impressions about what life was supposed to be like behind the Iron Curtain. I collected a set of ideas about countries like Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania, andmostof the visions were painted in somber, gray tones.

I envisioned a world where soldiers were stationed at every corner, keeping the people in line, making sure that no one was behaving contrary to the Communist Party's dictates.

My assumptions as a youth were that totalitarian governments controlled nations strictly by military force and that there was something sinister, inherently evil, about the people living in the Communist countries. I presumed that the Communist citizens themselves posed threats to the safety of those of us living in the Western world.

Now I have completed a stay in Romania, and many of my misconceptions, fortunately, have been washed away. My discoveries in Romania — a land that was previously a mystery to me — were surprisingly positive regarding the people and sadly disappointing regarding our own government and its seemingly inconsistent policies.

But since our research team's primary objective was to investigate business opportunities, and since Walter Bacon, a professor in UNO's political science department, wisely advised us that we would find the people to be Romania's greatest resource, our overall impressions were shaped by a concentration on relationships with our new friends in the old Eastern bloc. And how fortunate we were to have that sort of focus, for what we experienced was greater courtesy, generosity and intellect than most of us had ever known.

A skeptic may be justified in observing

that we enjoyed red-carpet treatment due to the nature of our visit and the strong desire by a capital-starved nation to make positive impressions on its business-related visitors. But we did not enter into the project without considering those factors, and even with a healthy amount of apprehension, we could feel the sincerity and warmth of nearly all our kind hosts.

Our first week was spent in the capital city Bucharest, which is where the first of my lingering boyhood myths about people behind the Iron Curtain vanished. As a person who knows the dangers of walking the streets at night in any major American city. I was delighted to stroll through the streets of Bucharest just before midnight without a bit of fear or concern for my safety.

In a city of millions, people are alarmed in the rare instance of a serious crime, such as murder, taking place. The security is not because there are armed guards patrolling the streets minute after minute. Perhaps serving as a deterrent is leftover fear from the

See Romania, page 8

News Clips-

Dean gets honorary title

Thomas Gouttierre, dean of international studies and programs, was awarded an honorary doctorate of humanities from the University of the City of Manila, the Philip-

Benjamin Tayabas, president of the university, said Gouttierre was recognized during the June 15 ccremony for his distinctive contributions and accomplishments in international education and for initiating and implementing the sister university linkage between UNO and the

Gouttlerne was instrumental in the development and administration of a sister university agreement signed in

Sincethattime, anumber of faculty and administrators from both institutions have participated in academic exchanges and collaborative research.

St. Nicholas holds festival

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church will hold its annual festival on July 19.

Thefestival lasts from noon to 6p.m. in the community center at 5050 Harrison St.

Ethnic foods, games, children's rides and ethnic music will be featured at the festival.

Compiled by Lori Clausen



From International, Page 1.

Center wanted to help," he said. "We wanted to give international students a chance to meet Americans, but there weren't as many (Americans) as we hoped for."

Rev. James Cavener of the Lutheran Campus Ministries and his wife, Judy, were present for the first evening's activities. The Caveners talked with and posed for pictures with the interna-

Mrs. Cavener said she bopes these activities will continue between ISC and the Religious Center and that more international and American students will participate.

The activities began June 20 with dinner at the Garden Cafe in downtown Omaha. Afterward, the group burned off dessert calories with a stroll through the Old Market and Heartland of America Park.

A dance party is being planned for the future, Farani said. Farani said he hopes the word will get around and more students will plan to attend.

One of the students who participated in the weekend event, Osama Al-Ali, a computer science major from Saudi Arabia, said Omahans are among the friendliest in America. He said be attributes their friendliness to the fact that not many foreigners

make their bome in Omaha.

"That makes the people here more curious and eager to learn about other cultures," he said.

Nine students from Japan are enrolled in UNO's Intensive Language program.

These students have come to Omaha through an exchange program with UNO's sister school, Shizuoka University in Japan. They will be in Omaha for four months in order to learn English and interact with Americans, Farani said.

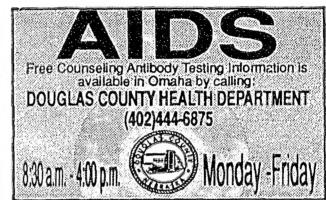
One Japanese student, Rie Takagi, said she wants to meet a lot of Americans. Takaji said she likes the big houses and yards, but restaurants serve too much food.

"I want to travel," said Magami Oishi, another student. She said she likes New York City the best but wants to meet people and make friends in Omaha.

The Japanese exchange students are waiting to be placed with American bost families, Farani said. This type of housing arrangement would give them a better understanding of how people live in this country. It would also give them a chance to practice their English.

For more information, call UNO's ISC at 554-2366.









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Letters must be signed using the first and last name. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number although this information will not be published. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.





The Gateway: It smells like baked plaid in our production room.



Boosters oppose Spanier pick

UNL's new AD

Staff Editorial

Tom's out fishin', Bob's going collectin', and Bill's movin' in.

The controversial search for the new athletic director at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (UNL) is over, but the changes in the department are just beginning.

Seventy-seven-year-old football relic Bob Devancy is saying goodbye to the athletic director post he has held for the past 25 years and saying hello to a high-paying fund-raising job in the athletic department. Paying Bob \$94,000 as a fund raiser should make his transition to retirement a little easier.

The Beef Club, a group of UNL athletic boosiers, has an orchard of money trees, so raising cash will not be a tough task for him.

So out goes Bob, and in comes Bill Byrne, athletic director at Oregon University. Byrne took a program with low funds at Oregon and raised \$12 million to build a new athletic

center. He raised annual athletic donations from \$400,000 to \$3 million.

His fund-raising expertise doesn't impress the NU boosters, though. Their man for the post was, of course, already part of the Big Red machine.

They were priming Al Papik, the current assistant athletic director, for the job. At 65 (general retirement age), Papik probably wouldn't bold the position for long, leaving the position open for someone else in the NU program; probably Osborne.

But Osbome wasn't sure he wanted the job. He said he always

thought he would be offered the athletic director job after he coached for 30-odd years. But, he added, he never really wanted it.

If Tom had to decide what flavor of ice cream he wanted, it would be melted by the time he made a decision.

One decision Osborne decided to make was to snub the press conference which announced Byrne as athletic director on Friday. Tom was out fishing.

UNL chancellor Graham Spanier did the right thing in opening the field of applicants beyond the state borders and hiring the best man for the job amid all of the pressure from the boosters and athletic administrators.

UNL's success in athletics soars beyond the touchdowns

scored in Memorial Stadium. The NU gymnastics team has won repeated national championships, the women's volleyball team enjoyed Top 20 success last season, and the men's basketball team even

appeared in the national polls last season.

The most likely choice for athletic director would not necessarily lie with someone who will only promote the football program, and those associated with the football program should not have attempted to pressure Spanier into picking their man.

Less than a year into his job as chancellor of UNL, Spanier, the new guy on the block, held his ground and didn't let the big guys with the money take advantage of him.

Maybe Graham will do just fine at UNL. Maybe Tom should just keep on fishin'.

Vinyl revival

I went digital in a moment of anger. Well, not really anger. More like frustration or annoyance. And, as usual, the rash decision was made in a record store.

The year was 1989, and I had just rushed out to buy the latest Cure album, "Disintegration." As I was looking over the track list, wondering how the album would compare to the early single I'd heard, my friend Matt said, "The CD has extra tracks."

I was horrified. Someone, somewhere, made the conscious decision to upset me by not putting a complete album on vinyl. So, I bought the disc.

Within the hour, I'd bought a CD player. In the following

-Dave Manning — Guest Columnist

three years, I purchased more than 400 CDs, compared to maybe two 45s and a couple of real vinyl 12-inch singles.

"Vinyl is dead," I told myself. "Now I can get anything I'd ever want on plastic."

For three years I was content buying CD singles, double-disc imports, three-inch mini platters packed full of digital sound.

I was happy, the music was wonderful, and I felt confident that my buying habits were pushing my life toward a better, digital tomorrow.

Sometime last month, I was digging through the import section at one of my favorite records stores, looking for a CD-single by a band called Velocity Girl.

I'd heard good things about the band, but I'd hadn't been successful tracking down releases. Lasked another good friend, Mike, whether or not he'd seen any Velocity Girl material.

"Sure," he said. "Look over here." He held up a 45 rpm, seven-inch single — on vinyl.

"Do you have anything on disc?" I asked.

"Nope," Mike told me. "Only on vinyl."

Vinyl? Just vinyl?

I'd been fooling myself for three years, thinking that with the advent of digital music media, the vinyl era was truly over.

Who would have a use for early 20th century technology when the miracle of lasers and plastic arrived?

Lots of people, it appeared. I found myself finding more and more vinyl-only goodies on small record labels run from some person's kitchen in Maryland. Or out of a flat in London. Or even from Iowa City. I discovered bands like Crayon, the Field Mice, and The Pastels. And more and more "interesting" labels like Bus Stop, Slumberland, Teen Beat and Simple Machines.

Most of all, I found great music put out by people who can't afford to press 5,000 copies of a compact disc, but can afford to sit up all night working on hand-lettered sleeves to hold 250 copies of a simple pop record.

Not that I hold anything against compact discs, or the bands who put them out. They're efficient, for one thing, and the sound quality is better than most vinyl recordings.

But maybe the CD is a bit too perfect, a sterile plastic disc in a plastic case, "virtually indestructible", etc., etc.

The 45, as I've rediscovered, has passion.

Last week, in a moment of rashness in an electronics store (a place second only to record stores for rash decisions), I bought a new numbable. I love it.

Don't bring your children to abortion protests

Abortion.

It seems to be one of those topics that no one can agree on. It also seems to bring out the worst in people.

You can't be pro-choice without someone screaming you are ababy-killer, and you can't be pro-life without someone screaming you aren't for individual rights. People on both sides of the issue have been arrested, resorted to violence and hated others for their opinion.

Is there a solution that is going to make everyone happy? I'm afraid not.

The U.S. Supreme Court is going to come down with a decision some time in the next few days on the Casey case. This decision could, in effect, overrule the Roe vs. Wade case which legalized abortion in the United States. What will happen then?

No one really knows what the effects of the decision will be, but I do know one thing: People will protest.

Regardless of the side, pro-choice or pro-life, there will be protests and some will get arrested and others will get violent. The sad thing is that children will more than likely be among those arrested.

While watching CNN the other night, I heard a news report of a pro-life protest during which children were arrested. This caught my attention. Children getting arrested? For protesting?

Who cares what they were protesting about; the fact is they were arrested.

"How," I asked myself, "could children be arrested during a protest? Do children really have an opinion of their own about abortion or anything else of national importance? How did those children get there?"

Chikiren (for the sake of argument I will define children as

<u>Heidi Jeanne Hess</u> Columnist

anyone underage 13) may have an idea of what they think is right and wrong. But on issues like abortion, do children really know what they think or do they just assimilate what their parents think? At that age I believe they just assimilate what their parents think. I think it is safe to say that a 10-year-old is more concerned with which cartoons are on television than abortion. I also think it is safe to say that most children are not knowledgeable enough to make a decision on abortion.

How, then, did those children get there to get arrested? Their

parents. My question now is, "How can a parent subject their children to the possibility of getting arrested?"

Children see enough violence and hatred on television without having their parents drag them into the middle of it.

We have all seen television broadcasts that show abortion protests turning violent, with people throwing things, screaming names and trying to harm one another. A parent wouldn't willingly have taken their child to the middle of Los Angeles during a riot, would they? No. Why then, would a parent willingly subject their child to the possibility of getting arrested?

Most of us are adults. We should have the knowledge base to make a decision about placing ourselves in danger; children don't. Leave them out of it.

There is something horribly wrong when a five-year-old tells me he is afraid to go to sleep because he knows the "bad people" are going to kill him in his sleep.

"Who are the 'bad people'?" I asked. "The people who hate my mommy because of what she thinks about abortion."

Children should be afraid of monsters in a closet, not real people.

This isn'tan issue of pro-life or pro-choice. It is an issue of the well-being of our future.

Festival celeb



The Summer Arts Festival attracts people from all over the Midwest.

For three days, the grounds surrounding the Douglas County Courthouse were engulfed in art, music and crafts.

The 18th annual Omaha Summer Arts Festival attracted artists from all over the country this past

More than 300 artists submitted slides of their work to the festival's three-judge panel this year, according to Janna Feldman, a volunteer at the festival's information desk. The judges, which are selected each year, are associated with Omaha's art community.

The judges chose 175 artists to participate this year, Feldman said. The artists paid a \$125 entry fee, which paid for the judges' time spent reviewing about 1,000 slides.

"Wesendapplication forms in January, and three slides are sent, and the artists' work is judged. We take those with the highest number ranking," Feldman said.

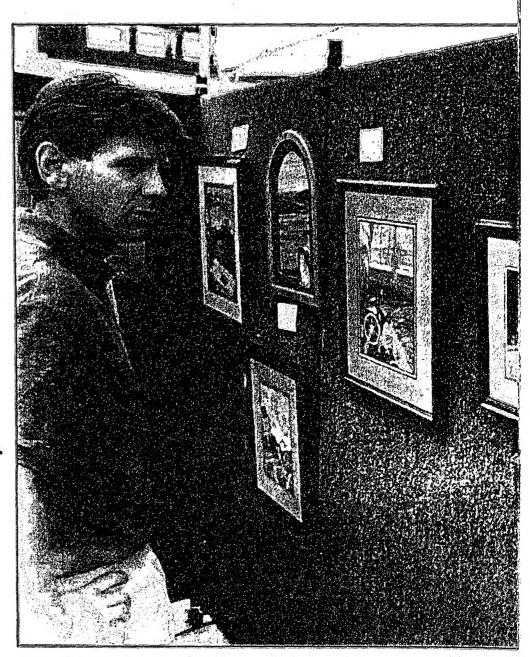
Oil and watercolor paintings, stained glass and colored pencil drawings dominated the festival. Carl

colored pencil drawings dominated the festival. Carl Queen's forte was suede wall sculpture. Ed Richardson carved names into the end of a Louisville Slugger, and sold wooden utensil sets or homemade carving knives.

John Hanks displayed cowboy hats, belts and boots made of snakeskin. For those who always wanted to get face to face with a rattle snake but didn't want to get bit, Hanks offered rattle snake heads sewn on hats or snakeskins made to look like miniature coiled rattlers. Hanks assured prospective miniature coiled rattlers. Hanks assured prospective

Trisha Morse, daughter of Dave and Anita Morse, attempts to create an enormous bubble.

Story by: Daren Schrat



"It's really nice, I'm impressed. I've been here a week

rates the arts

nuyers his serpents were not poisonous.

Local performers provided a diverse selection of nusic. The Nebraska Wind Symphony performed lassical musictoa crowdeating Ozark Smoked Meat and potato salad and concluded with the 1812 Overture. On the other side of the musical spectrum, nusicians pounded on oil drums to create a Caribaean sound that made some people dance.

While the intent of the festival is to promote the arts in Omaha, many artists look to the event as a greans of selling their work and gaining some recognitions.

neans of selling their work and gaining some recog-

Robert McLain creates images of nature and van-shing America with colored pencils and invests 30-160 hours and as much as \$100 in his works. He ravels to art festivals in large cities such as Chicago, vilwaukee and Minneapolis. McLain has been completely devoted to his art-vork since leaving a graphic design position at Tonka

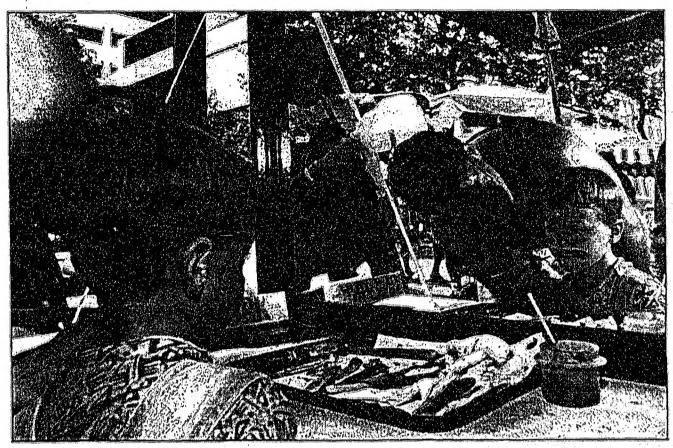
oys 10 years ago.

"This is one of the best organized festivals," victain said. "This year has been a down year. There are plenty of people coming to look, but they are not

replenty or people coming to look, but they are not buying as much."

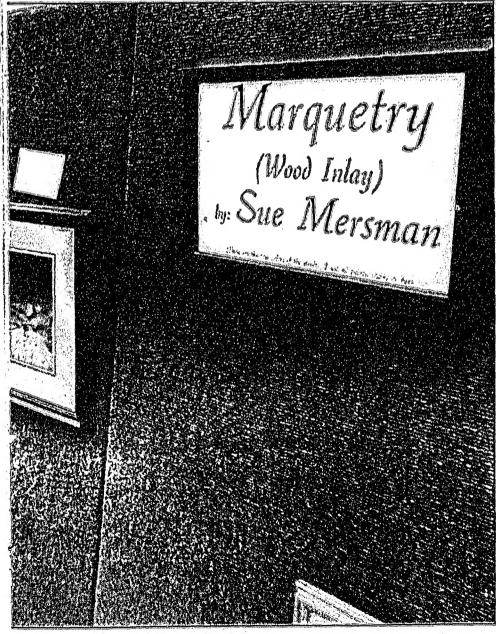
Steve Baldwin constructs toys made of wood. His works range from a train complete with cars and rack for \$3,000 to either a red International Harvester tractor or a green John Deere tractor for \$225.

"This (show) is organized and they provide security which is important to the artists," Baldwin said. "Art shows are my marketing tool. We get call backs all rear long."

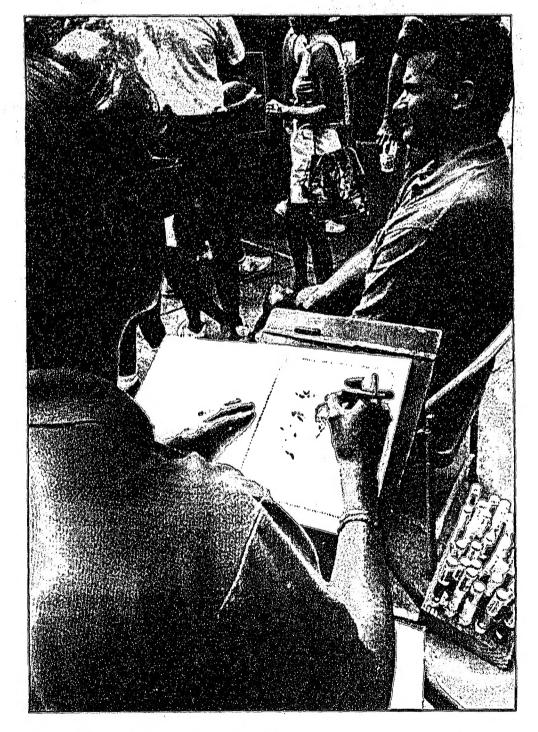


Johnny watches his father John Blatzheim's painting expertise.

Photos by: Ed Carlson



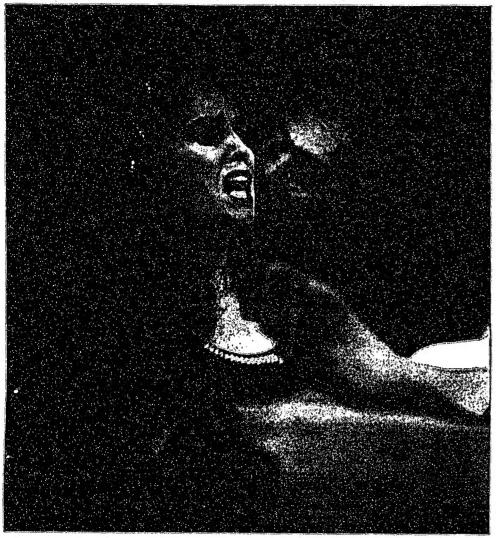
and its shows a lot for the city," said James Quigg.



David Zweifel and his dog Maggie pose as Dorinda L. Hoke creates caricatures of them.

arrobeat

music, film, the arts and whatever else fits



—Eric Francis

King Richard III played, by Joffrey Guyten, whispers to Lady Anne, played by Kathleen Mary Mollgan.

Richard III portrayal physically challenging

The Nebraska Shakespeare Festival concludes its sixth annual Shakespeare on the Green Festival this week with performances of both "The Comedy of Errors" and "Richard III."

Jeffrey Guyton takes on the role of the murderous Richard in "Richard III," a Shakespearean interpretation of King Richard III, who ruled England for several years in the lat 15th century.

The Ohio-born Guyton said playing Rich-

up close

by elizabeth tape

ard is a role he's always wanted to play.

"I was interested in the complexity of his personality and psychology, and the investigation of evil is intellectually satisfying. I play so many clowns and sympathetic characters, I wanted the chance to play a villain."

Guyton said he has performed in "Richard III" in the past, with some rather dire consequences.

"I was the Second Murderer in a production about 10 years ago and fell off the platform and broke my right arm, so I have a history with this play."

Guyton said he found himself immersed in his role to an unexpectedly involved degree.

His past athletic experiences as a state high school wrestling champion helped him "sustain what I've decided is a fairly severe birth defect through three hours of running and plotting and fighting," he said.

"Richard was physically deformed and every indication says at that time if a child was born with such a condition, it was an indication of inner evil or the child was the manifestation of evil his parents had done so he was treated as an evil, ugly, deformed creature, so that is the way Richard behaves."

Guyton said Shakespeare's interpretation of Richard differs somewhat from what he has learned through research.

"I think that the historical Richard III was probably not a swell fellow, but I don't think he was the monster or the devil portrayed here."

Guyton said Shakespeare depicted Richard as a man who betrays the people he loves.

"He woos a woman (whose husband he murdered) and immediately says he'll discard her in a brief period of time. He doesn't love himself and he's never been loved."

Guyton feels visitors to "Richard III" may find the play a springboard to other thoughts.

"I think there will be times that people are triggered by something in the play, and they think about their own life for a little bit. That's what it's for, — self-reflection, thought and entertainment."

Sunsplash '92 brings reggae

The Reggae Sunsplash 1992 tour will bring the sounds of Jamaica to the Ranch Bowl Wednesday.

The Sunsplash tour, produced by Synergy Productions, is making its eighth annual tour of the United States.

Sunsplash 1992 will highlight the music of Lucky Dube, Aswad, John Holt, Barrington Levy, Papa San and SKOOL. The tour will be hosted by Tommy Cowan, also known as "Mr. Sunsplash".

"There's reggae from Jamaica, England and South Africa," Lucky Dube said. "I think it's a very perfect combination."

Dube began his musical career playing Zulu pop in South Africa. He soon changed his musical style to reggae.

"I found out that reggae is accepted everywhere in the world."

sound check

preview by kim despins

Dube said. "Because nobody would understand Zulu outside of South Africa, even if I had a message, it wouldn't go beyond South Africa. And, so, getting into reggae would get the message across to the whole world."

He said his songs of freedom and the coming together of the people were not appreciated by the apartheid regime in South Africa. His first reggae release, "Rastas Never Die," was quickly borned

"Anything that was talking about apartheid and all that didn't make it in South Africa because the government would just bend the records," Dube said.

The main difference between South African reggae and Jamaican reggae, which is popular in the United States, is roots,

"Jamaican reggae is losing the roots (Bob) Marley had," he said. "It's getting into rap and all that. The reggae that I'm doing from South Africa still has got the roots in it."

Dube's stage performance includes the chorcographed Zulu



-lobeline communications

Lucky Dube will perform at the Ranch Bowl with the 1992 Sunspiash tour July 1. Dube plays South African reggae.

dance steps of his band, The Slaves.

The reggae band Aswad, from England, will join Lucky Dube on the Sunsplash tour.

Aswad, which means "black" in Arabic, was the first British reggae band to sign with a major label. They released their first single, "Back to Africa," in 1987, and it went to No. 1 on the United Kingdom charts.

John Holt began his musical career at age 12. His years of experience have made him an influential force in reggae.

In the '60s, Holt led the Jamaican group The Paragons.

Afterward, he traveled to England for a successful solo career.

Barrington Levy made his debut in England in 1979. With his current album, "Turning Point," Levy said he wants to become

well-known in the United States.

"I'm going for the top and trying to break big in the 50 states," Levy said.

Papa San's hit single "Animal Party" brought him instant fame in 1984. His reputation in music has not only endured but has grown worldwide.

SKOOL is the Reggae Sunsplash 1992 house band. This band will be the driving force behind John Holt, Barrington Levy and Papa San.

Oncof Synergy Production's founders, Tony Johnson, summed up the Sunsplash tour when he said, "Truly a music of the people. Sunsplash is proud to carry its theme of 'Uniting The World Through Music' to all points of the globe."

art·beat art·beat art·beat art·beat art·beat art·beat

Fourth of July injuries worry local officials

by tekla a. ali

Alcohol and automobile-related injuries, which are more common than mishandled fireworks or unruly crowds, are the biggest concern for Omaha-area hospitals during the Fourth of July holiday, according to several hospital officials.

Kevin Schwedbelm, manager of the Bergan Mercy Medical Center Emergency Department, said the Fourth of July is busy.

"There are more alcohol-related accidents than anything else. Although, every Fourth of July we do gets ix or seven fireworks injuries," he said.

Kathy Severa, manager of public relations at Childrens Hospital, agreed with Schwedhelm.

"I remember last year the greater concern for loss of life was alcohol-related accidents, rather than fireworks," Severa said.

She said she thinks fireworks injuries have decreased in recent years because of the growing number of public fireworks

displays where people can watch fireworks without handling

The Omaha Fire Department has started a program called "Funnerworks," which is intended to prevent fireworks injuries.

This program consists of giving children alternative noisemakers, similar to those used on New Year's Eve.

Celeste Felix, unit director of the University of Nebraska Medical Center Emergency Department, said the hospital did not treat any fireworks injuries last year, although many injuries are not always treated in emergency rooms.

Severa and Felix said they do not expect any staff increase for the holiday period.

Hospital staffs are not the only people who are concerned about Fourth of July injuries. The Omaha police and fire departments will also be on the watch during the holiday period.

Assistant Fire Marshall Fred Wolfsaid the fire department usually receives a minimal number of calls because of a city law prohibiting large, powerful fireworks.

"We (Omaha) have a minimum amount of injuries inside the city limits. That's because the only fireworks allowed by the city are smoke bombs, snakes, that kind of thing," Wolf

Charlie Parker, deputy chief in charge of the Uniform Patrol Unit, said police respond to more 911 calls than usual because of complaints about the illegal fireworks.

The police focus special attention in the parks and around Rosenblatt Stadium where large, traditional fireworks displays are held, Parker said.

The police do not expect crowd control problems, other than traffic jams, as people gather in large numbers to watch the fireworks, he said.

The following events will be held on Friday and Saturday. unless otherwise indicated.

The Gateway's Entertainment Guide

MUSIC

- Johnson, Mertz, Herrington, a rhythm and bluesband, will perform at Arthur's Thursday and Friday. Arthur's will be dosed the Fourth of July.
- Art Kershaw will play at the Dubliner Thursday. The Turfmen will perform Friday.
- The Chicago Bar will host Times Beach Friday. Acoustic Jam is every Thursday.
- *Look Ma will be featured at Three Cheers for the Fourth of July. Every Friday is Paul Phillips night.

Jorge Nila and the Jazz Ninjas will be appearing at

Coyote's Bor and Grill Sunday. •Crash Alley will be at Clyde's West. •The Saddle Creek Bar is hosting the L.A. Blues

Whoz Drivin' will perform at D. Dub's Beanery & Pub.

Overlord will be at the Crazy Horse Saloon. •The Confidentials will appear at the Howard

Street Tavern Friday and Saturday. Hanna's Porch and the Truck Farm, both of which appeared in the New Music Festival, will perform Thursday. The Road House Rockers, a blues band from Santa Barbara, Calif., will perform Sunday. The Ornaha All Stars Blues Review will be featured every

Nasty Knasta is performing at Mickey's '20's.

 Tight Fit will be at the Ranch Bowl Friday. Rollins Band and Tool will perform Saturday. The 1992 Reggae Sunsplash tour will be featured Thursday.

•Lie Awake will perform at Rumors Friday. Hat Trick will be

featured Saturday.

STAGE

- •"A Gentleman and a Scoundrel" will appear through July Sai the Firehouse Dinner Theater. The play is a comedy about a man who gets a second job as his own coworker. He realizes his girlfriend is falling for his co-worker and begins to compete with himself for the love of his own girlfriend.
- •The Grande Olde Players Theater is putting on "You Can't Take It With You" through July 5.

FIREWORKS DISPLAYS

- There will be a fireworks display after the Omaha Royals game against Oklahoma City at Rosenblatt Stadium
- Saturday, Starting time is around 9:45 p.m. A fireworks display will begin at Raiston Park Thursday at

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Ccaucescu days of severe (and many times excessive) punishment for crimes against persons, but the crime rate is remarkably low. As capitalism grows, as unemployment increases, and as drug traffickers slither in, I suppose the comfort and security may change, which is one of the penalties of progress.

The next myth left over from my youth dissolved when a companion and I travelled across the country by rail to Timisoara, the western-most major city in Romania, both geographically and ideologically. Timisoara is a city with a strong Austrian influence, and its citizens are proud of their reputation as the community that dictator Nicholae Ccauces cu could not control.

In fact, it was the city where, in December 1989, the swift, effective revolution began which toppled the dictatorship. It was refreshing to find this oasis of Western thought within Romania, and carly in our visit I was puzzled that a similar atmosphere did not prevail in my favorite city, Bucharest.

But as I solved the puzzle, it became clear to me how effective the Ceaucescu regime was in gripping this nation. The transportation and communications systems are pathetic. Our journey on the railway revealed a system that, by our standards, does not even qualify for the term "system."

Having no computers, the agents at the train stations

cannot supply a passenger with a scating assignment for more than one ride at a time.

With an abominable telephone system prohibiting communication, they have no way of verifying between stations whether certain compartments may be sold from one day to thenext. In Timisoara, I tried to make a call back to Bucharest and could scarcely accomplish the task.

This, it seemed, is how the dictatorship kept the Romanians in control; by keeping them from getting to each other or contacting each other. Even if military presence was greater under the old regime and hidden surveillance techniques employed by the secret police, inhibiting communication may have been the strongest control tactic.

The case with which we in America communicate should not be taken for granted, for ours is a system that should be the envy of every nation in the globe. It certainly is by the Romanians, who are now enjoying their first taste of freedom but who are also worried about the big challenges ahead of them in converting their society to a free market economy.

One characteristic the Romanians have in their favor is their strong emphasis on education. Most of the people we met had excellent command of at least one language in addition to their native tongue, and many were fluent in

several. By law, students attend the university following their equivalent of our high school. University studies encompass five years of concentration in a particular field.

The students we met (and we realize that we may have been exposed to some of the better ones) were serious about and committed to their studies, much more so than American students. But then, Romanian students have been fighting a tougher battle all their lives, so their dedication is not necessarily surprising. Among the most devoted students we met were those at the Academy of Economic Studies in Bucharest, a circumstance which cannot be coincidental.

After all, these young people, along with their mentors and (hopefully) officials in the Ministry of Finance, face what is probably Romania's most pressing task.

That challenge is to solve the financial and economic riddles which hold the country back from flourishing in the free market. In Bucharest, every government ministry we visited acknowledged that the dilemma of establishing a flow of hard currency is the number one problem for the country to address. Hopefully, the spirited intellect of the economics students can serve to inspire, not alarm. Romania's government officials, many of whom are holdovers from the Com-

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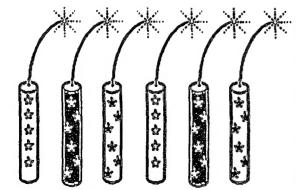
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